

Food Protection Manager Certification

Improving Food Safety in the Commonwealth

The Virginia Department of Health amended the [Food Regulations](#) (12 VAC5-421 et. seq.) on July 12, 2016. Part of the amendment requires *most* food establishments to have a certified food protection manager (CFPM) on staff no later than **July 1, 2018**. At least one restaurant employee with supervisory and management responsibility and the authority to direct and control food preparation and service must be a certified food protection manager. This document will provide information on how to obtain certification and provide insight on the importance of the food protection manager's role in the workplace.

What is a Certified Food Protection Manager?

According to the [Food Regulations](#), a CFPM is any person who has passed a certified food protection manager examination with a designated organization.

Food establishments with certified food managers typically.....



have better food
safety practices
and **behaviors**.



have fewer
instances of
foodborne illness



are less likely to have
serious violations on
their **inspections**

Why is certification important?

Not only is a CFPM required in the [Food Regulations](#), food establishments who have CFPMs on staff were found to have fewer violations related to inspection items that are directly related to food borne illness. Lastly, the food safety manager certification shows that one has the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to oversee the safe storage, preparation and service of food to the public.

How do I obtain my certification?

Certification is obtained by successfully passing an approved examination. VDH recognizes the following certification courses and examinations accredited through the Conference of Food Protection: (1) National Registry of Food Safety Professionals, (2) Prometric, (3) ServSafe®, (4) 360training.com, and (5) Statefoodsafety.com.

Questions? Comments? Please contact <insert name of local health department and contact information>